

History of the Biographic Register
Office of Central Reference
Central Intelligence Agency

1946 - 1948

I. CIG 16

A. Duties and Responsibilities

1. As delegated by Directive
2. As delegated within the Agency

B. Organization

1. Areas of Responsibility
2. Budget
3. Personnel

C. Procedures

1. Collection
2. Processing

D. Production

1. Requests
2. Standing Requirements

E. Inter- and Intra-Agency Relations

1. Relations with OSI
2. Relations with OCI
3. Relations with DD/P
4. Relations with other CIA offices
5. Relations with State
6. Relations with Department of Army, Navy, Air Force

E. Inter- and Intra-Agency Relations (Cont.)

7. Relations with other IAC Agencies

1948 - 1961

II. NSCID 8

A. Duties and Responsibilities

1. As delegated by Directive
2. As delegated within the Agency

B. Organization

1. Areas of Responsibility
2. Budget
3. Personnel

C. Procedures

1. Collection
2. Processing

D. Production

1. Requests
2. Standing Requirements

E. Inter- and Intra-Agency Relations

1. Relations with OSI
2. Relations with OCI
3. Relations with DD/P
4. Relations with OBI
5. Relations with other CIA offices

E. Inter- and Intra-Agency Relations (Cont.)

6. Relations with State
7. Relations with DIA
8. Relations with Defense Agencies
9. Relations with other USIB Agencies

1961 - date

III. DCID 1/9

A. Duties and Responsibilities

1. As delegated by Directive
2. As delegated within the Agency

B. Organization

1. Areas of Responsibility
2. Budget
3. Personnel

C. Procedures

1. Collection
2. Processing

D. Production

1. Requests
2. Standing Requirements

E. Inter- and Intra-Agency Relations

1. Relations with OSI
2. Relations with OCI
3. Relations with DD/P

E. Inter--and Intra-Agency Relations (Cont.)

4. Relations with other CIA offices
5. Relations with State
6. Relations with Department of Army, Navy, Air Force
7. Relations with other IAC Agencies

~~SECRET~~
SECURITY INFORMATION

BIOGRAPHIC REGISTER

IV

It had been hoped originally in 1946 to establish a central file of biographic information suited to the needs of all the IAC agencies, but complete agreement could not be reached on this point. After some consideration CIG Directive No. 16 (1 November 1946) delimited the areas of responsibility for biographic intelligence as follows:

State - political, cultural, social, economic, and international

Army - military

Navy - naval

All departments - scientific (in accordance with individual needs)

In due course it seemed advisable to divide scientific personalities from all others, a group for which none of the agencies had previously been given specific responsibility. By January, 1948 priority was being given to scientific biographies in CIA, and this duty was definitely confirmed by NSCID No. 8, 25 May 1948. At the same time the information on non-scientists grew apace, being subdivided on a

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~
SECURITY INFORMATION
- 2 -

regional basis. Processing data on non-scientists resulted in some duplication among the IAC Agencies and as a consequence, repeated efforts were made to put all biographic intelligence under one umbrella, but up to the present without result.

From November, 1948 on the Biographic Register has made reports on a special format citing in conclusion the sources of information consulted in the dossiers and elsewhere (often these reports reflect conflicting data). Dossiers are maintained on persons of importance, cross referenced by location and fields of conversance, etc. On others there is little more than a name entry on record which can be expanded into a dossier if the need arises. IBM equipment is used extensively under special codes to achieve a cross-indexing system not found elsewhere. Late in 1951 a new four-way indexing system was installed experimentally in an attempt to greatly increase production capabilities.

~~SECRET~~